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IZUMI
KAWACHI
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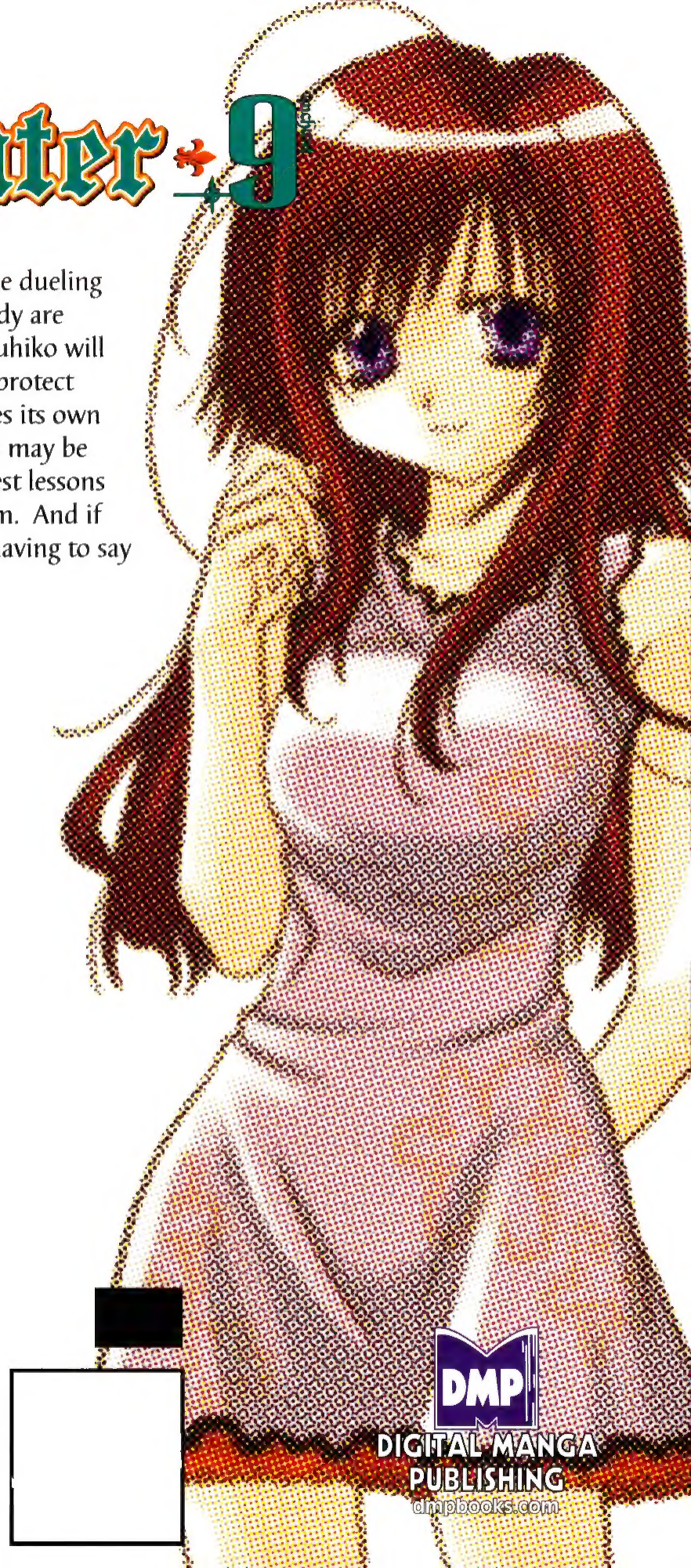
Enchanter 9

Poor, tortured Mercurio! The dueling personalities at war inside her body are ripping her sanity to shreds. Haruhiko will have to fight harder than ever to protect her, but an unknown history hides its own secrets...and Mercurio's problems may be too big to battle alone. The hardest lessons of Haruhiko's young life await him. And if saying sorry is difficult, imagine having to say goodbye...*forever.*



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Enchanter 9 enchant

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IZUMI KAWACHI

YAAAH!!! I'M ON IT!

There is no totally accurate measure of time and space – so says modern physics! Each individual or object possesses its own unique sense of time, and no one else can dictate the length or brevity.

With this volume, Mercurio's storyline comes to an end. Haruhiko and the others pay close attention, each with their own thoughts and feelings...each of which is fully justified.

Yet, time continues its forward march, indifferent to all. Time waits for no one. Oh, how cruel!

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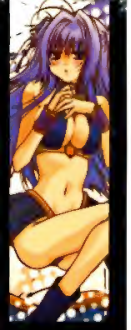
Enchanter 9

IZUMI KAWACHI



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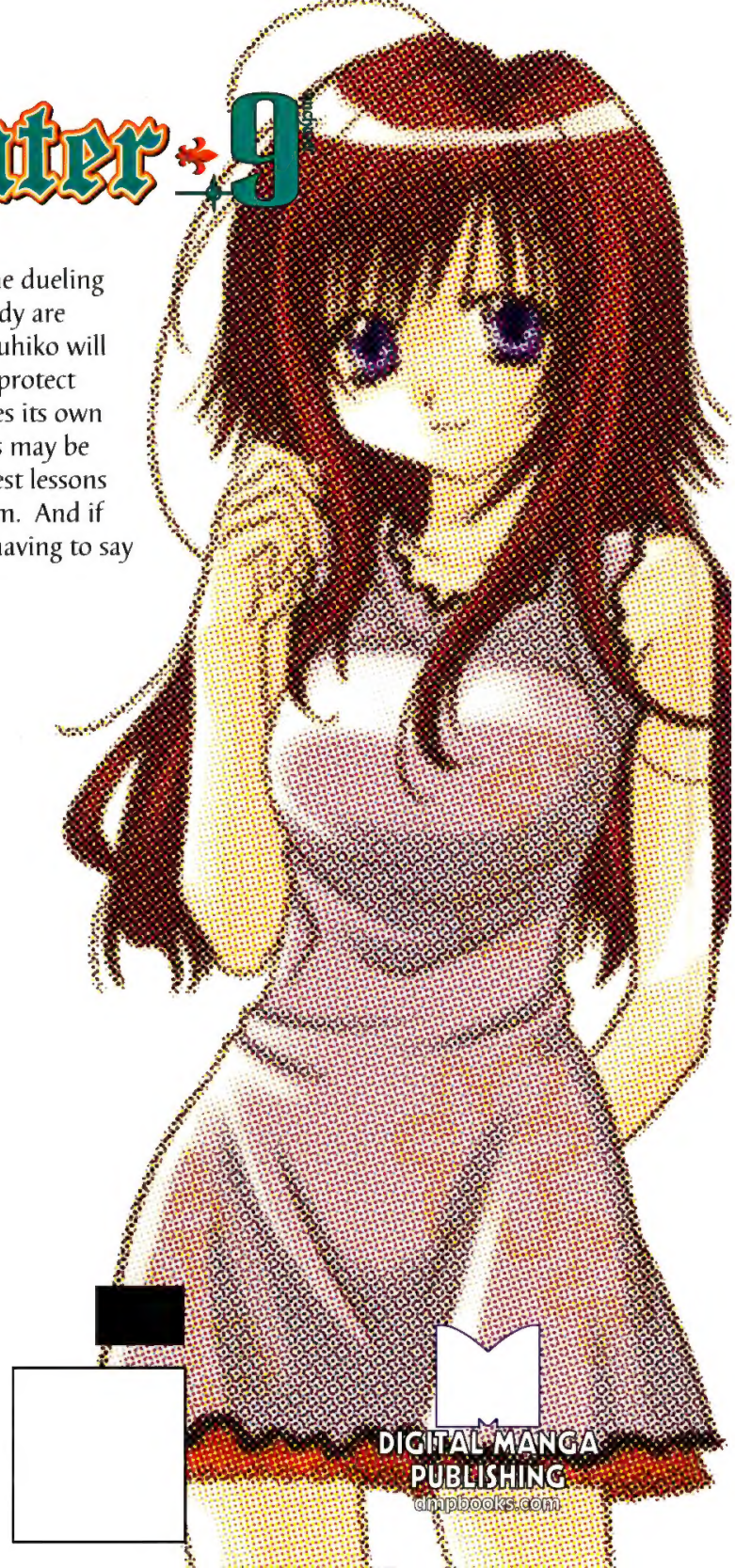

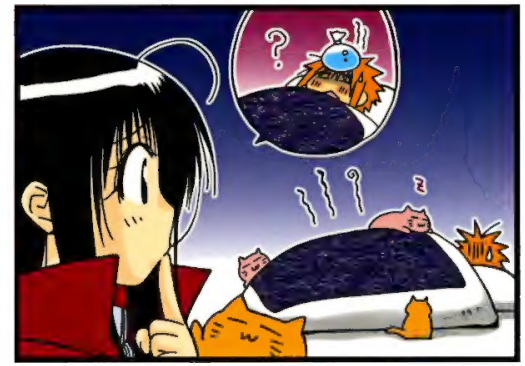

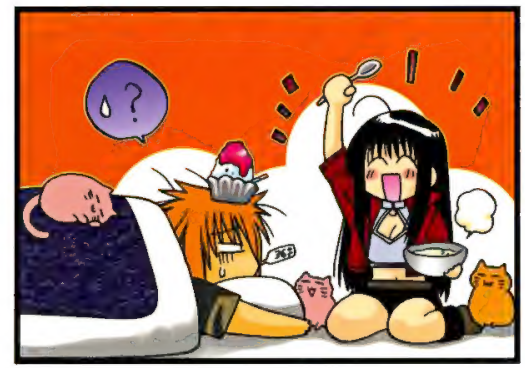

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Scans by Kickthekitty
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Translation	Sachiko Sato
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Graphic Design	Fred Lui / Wendy Lee
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TAP

OH, YOU'RE SUCH A STICKLER.

TAP

CAGLIO-STRO!

WHY DID YOU MAKE SUCH A THING?!

TAP

EVEN PARACELSUS - ...WHY *DO* THIS?!

THE ORIGINAL GIRL STILL LIVES!

WHO KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF YOU PUT A NEW PERSONALITY IN HER...!

THAT'S JUST *IT*, FULCANELLI.

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE QUALITY OF THE DEVICE.

YOU WANT TO SEE THE RESULT, TOO - CORRECT?

I KNOW I DO.

TAP...

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO MAKE A MECHANICAL DEVICE THAT CAN PROVIDE AN ARTIFICIAL LINK OF CONSCIOUSNESS OR PERSONALITY... JUST TO SEE WHETHER IT'D WORK.

WHY MUST YOU HELP THIS DEMON, EVEN AT THE EXPENSE OF SUPPRESSING THE ORIGINAL GIRL'S SOUL?

SO YOU KNOW, I'M ***NOT*** DOING THIS OUT OF THE GOODNESS OF MY HEART.

I JUST HAPPENED ONTO THE SCENE...

...WHERE A DYING DEMON FORCED HER SOUL INTO A LIVING GIRL'S BODY - AND THAT'S WHEN THE IDEA HIT ME. THAT'S ALL.

I COULD UNDERSTAND IF YOU WERE DOING THIS OUT OF PITY, BUT...

REALLY? SO THOSE THAT WANT MY HELP SHOULD ALWAYS STAY ON MY *GOOD* SIDE? IS THAT YOUR POINT?

OUT OF MERE CURIOSITY? IT'S HORRIBLE!

I ***DON'T*** NEED YOUR UNDER-STANDING!

WHAT IS INSIDE WHOM - IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU OR ME.

I'M SO HAPPY ...

SUCH A KIND PERSON, WHO ACKNOWL-EDGES A NOBODY LIKE ME...

I WANT TO STAY NEAR MR. HARUHIKO ...BUT...

---OH...MR. HARUHIKO AS MY ENCHANTER...

...
...
...

enchant.33

エンチャント

Even if it was a mistake,

イーブンイフイトウワズアミステイク

WHIP

AHAHAHA-
HAHAHA-
HAHAHA!!

UGH...!

HUMP

HUMP

WHAP

MOVE ASIDE, MISS EUKANARIA!!

IT'S MR. HARUHIKO I HAVE BUSINESS WITH - NOT YOU!

ZSSSH

THAT'S WHAT I OBJECT TO!

HARUHIKO IS *MY* PRECIOUS RECEPTACLE!

sak

I CAN'T LET YOU DESTROY HIM!

DOM

HA...!

AHA... AHAHAHA!

WHAM

WHIP

LEAP

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!

SZZT!

WHSH

ヒュ。

YOU'RE STILL THINKING ABOUT PUTTING A DIFFERENT SOUL INTO MR. HARUHIKO'S BODY?!

HILARIOUS!

WHIP

YOU

GY

IF HARUHIKO REALLY HAS DAMAGED THE DEMON-STONE, I'LL DESTROY HIM MYSELF!

BRACE!

CLANG!

YOU'LL HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!!

I'LL THROW THOSE WORDS BACK IN YOUR FACE!

WHACK

UGH ?!

UH...!

WHSH!

STOP! EUKANARIA'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS!

HAHA♥

MR. YAMATO HASN'T TAUGHT YOU HOW TO HANDLE A GUN, HAS HE?

TCH...

OH, MY...

OH, I'LL HIT YOU.

THIS IS NO ORDINARY GUN.

#"...

RUSTLE...

YOU'LL NEVER HIT ME ONE-HANDED - THE RECOIL WILL SURELY AFFECT YOUR AIM.

HOW DASHING YOU LOOK, MR. HARUHIKO!

LUNGE!

!

BLINK

BUT WILL YOU SHOOT?!

BA-BLAM!

G...!

IF YOU WON'T BRING BACK THE OTHER MERCURIO -

HURRGH ?!

HUH?!

I'M PROTECTING YOU!!

MOVE, YOU'RE IN THE WAY!

HEY!

OH - HARUHIKO? YOU'RE HERE?

GH ...

GRIP...

I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU LATER - JUST WAIT!!

WHY ARE YOU HITTING ME?!

...!

SO, HE REALLY *IS* BROKEN?!

I SWEAR I'M NOT THE ONE WHO BROKE HIM!!

IT'S A MISUNDER-STANDING ABOUT FULCANELLI!

EUKANARIA, LISTEN!

SMACK

!!

THAT'S - ...

PLEASE - JUST STAY AWAY!

HEY!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, HARUHIKO ?!

SZZZZT

EEK?!

THUD

I'M THE ONE SHE'S AFTER.

I DON'T MIND A SMACKDOWN IF SHE'S VENTING HER FRUSTRATION, BUT...

IF SHE'S DOING IT TO UPSET MERCURIO - I CAN'T FORGIVE HER!

HA...

HARUHIKO...

AHAHAHAHA HAHAHA-HAHA!

SO, YOU STILL INSIST ON CALLING THAT WORTHLESS DEMON BY *MY* NAME!!

THEN WHAT IS HER NA-...

THAT THING HAS NO NAME.

GOOD GIRL?

IT'S AN ACT TO TAKE YOU IN, I'M SURE.

YOU'RE HORRIBLE ...

JUST HOW CRUEL CAN YOU BE TO A GOOD GIRL LIKE HER -

"PLEASE SYMPATHIZE WITH ME."... I'M SURE. ♡

CRACKLE!

HOW ANNOYING - I WISH SHE WOULD DIE ALREADY!

RUSTLE...

!!

DON'T YOU THINK YOU'VE CROSSED THE LINE?

THE SIGHT OF HER BELOVED BEING PUMMELED FOR HER SAKE.

OH - BUT BEFORE THAT, I MUST SHOW HER MORE.

SO GOOD-NATURED, AREN'T YOU?! THIS HAS TO DO WITH ***YOUR*** BODY, TOO!

FLASH

I KNOW SHE OVERTOOK YOUR BODY, BUT THIS IS TOO MUCH!!

BOOM

WHAT ...?

WHIP!

DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH YOU!!

WHSH

I'VE NEVER ONCE WISHED FULCANELLI DEAD!!

I NEED A SOLUTION. THERE MUST BE SOME WAY!!

HOW ADMIRABLE OF YOU.

...BUT I NEVER EVEN HAD TIME FOR THAT.

CAN YOU UNDER-STAND HOW I FELT?

WHAT ...?

WITH NO DISCUSSION, NO HESITATION, MY BODY WAS INVADED -

WHAP!

!!

I WAS THE ONE WHO WAS SUPPRESSED FOR SO LONG! CAN YOU UNDERSTAND THAT MISERY?!

THUD

BUT STILL...!

EVEN SO - !!

I WANT THE OTHER MERCURIO TO REMAIN!!

OKAY, MR. HARUHIKO...

BANG

WHY NOT HAND OVER THAT BODY OF YOURS TO SIR FULCANELLI, THEN?!

U...GH!!

YOU DON'T WANT TO -

DO YOU?!

DO YOU UNDER-STAND THE WEIGHT OF YOUR WORDS WHEN YOU SAY YOU WANT THAT DEMON TO REMAIN?!

I AM THE CAUSE OF MISS MERCURIO'S ANGER...

OH...WHAT I HAVE DONE IS CAUSING MR. HARUHIKO PAIN...!!

I'M SORRY... I'M SO SORRY...

HIC

HIC

DON'T REPROACH MR. HARUHIKO'S KIND, PRECIOUS SOUL...!!

PLEASE... STOP... STOP!!

MR. HARUHIKO ISN'T INFERIOR!!

SIR FULCANELLI COULD MAKE COUNTLESS THINGS THAT YOU NEVER COULD - GO ON, TRADE PLACES WITH HIM!!

...
...
...

NO...

I NEVER SHOULD HAVE EXISTED IN THE FIRST PLACE -

STOP IT!!

KRAK

NEEE

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ABOUT FULCANELLI ...

CREAK

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT!

ALL I KNOW IS THAT I WANT TO HELP MER.

I DON'T WAVER.

I DON'T DOUBT ANYMORE.

WHIP

JAK

!!

...!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...

MR. HARUHIKO...

THWAP

I KNOW -

I KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING ISN'T RIGHT -

I KNOW THAT BEST OF ALL.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME!

BUT I'M MERCURIO'S ENCHANTER NOW.

I MUST PROTECT HER.

PROTECT ...?! THAT USELESS PIECE OF TRASH?!

SNARL!

SHUT UP!!

DON'T CALL HER "TRASH" !!

...I'M GOING TO REPAIR THE UNIT, JUST AS MERCURIO WANTED.

I'M GOING TO INVITE HER TO SCHOOL AGAIN. HER!

...NOT YOU.

...

OH...

MR. HARUHIKO...

HE'S SHAKING...

...

...

HE WOULD NORMALLY NEVER SAY THIS...

SOB...

HIC

HOW HE MUST HAVE SUFFERED TO COME TO THIS DECISION...

IT IS ALL MY FAULT ...!

HA... HA... HA HA HA ...

RUSTLE

AHAHAHA-HAHAHAHA!

RUSTLE...

I UNDERSTAND... OKAY, MR. HARUHIKO.

...I CONFESS, THE BLOOD MUST HAVE GONE TO MY HEAD.

CHUCKLE CHUCKLE

HOW EMBAR-RASSING THAT I DID NOT SEE IT SOONER!

SHOOT ME.

IF YOU CAN HARM ME, PLEASE GO AHEAD.

---OR RATHER...

IS THAT GUN EVEN A *TRUE* ENCHANTED IMPLEMENT?

WHY ...

DO YOU SAY THAT...?

OH, PLEASE... MR. HARUHIKO. REALLY, IT'S *TOO* MUCH!

RUSTLE...

CHUCKLE

CHUCKLE

IF YOU TRULY WANT TO SAVE HER, SHOOT ME AND BE DONE WITH IT ALREADY.

A MAN SO KIND...AND SO GREEN.

YOU "DON'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO SHOOT" -

NO, THAT'S NOT IT.

TAP...

THAT WOULD NEGATE THE HERETO VALIANT SPEECHES YOU'VE BEEN GIVING.

YOU CANNOT HARM ME. I AM THE "RECEPTACLE."

"THE GUN HAS THE WRONG ATTRIBUTE"...

TAP...

I AM GUESSING THIS GUN ONLY WORKS ON A DEMON, CORRECT?

...
...!

I MAY BE AN ENCHANTER, BUT I AM ALSO A HUMAN - JUST LIKE YOU.

OH... BUT -

I DON'T MIND THE REASON - DO YOU SEE?

MR. HARUHIKO...I MUST STOP HIM...

...NO...!

EITHER WAY, IT WORKS OUT FOR ME.

CHUCKLE...
ﾆｽ...!

STOP... PLEASE, STOP ...!!

KRAK!

WHY MESS WITH THIS PIECE OF JUNK?!

WHAT?! ARE YOU SAYING YOU'RE GONNA KILL THAT ANNOYING DEMON FOR ME WITH *THAT*?!

enchant.34 懺悔 (ざんげ) REPENTANCE

SHUT UP! IF YOU REALLY WANT ME TO STOP -

NO MORE... PLEASE STOP!!

CLUNK

HA!

DROP YOUR WEAPON?! HOW LAME!!

THUMP

CLUNK

BA-BA-BA-BLAM!

--- HURRY UP AND DISAPPEAR ALREADY!!

WHSH

はっ

WHA-... MERCURIO! YOU'VE GONE FAR ENO-...

HARUHIKO!

WHUMP

DOO

DOO

HUH...!

はっ

HUFF...

WHY...

WHAT?

YOU MUST BE KIDDING!

WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST FALL FOR IT...?

ALL I MEANT TO DO WAS CAPTURE YOU AND TAKE YOU TO PARACELSUS.

HARU-...

I HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO GO ALONG WITH YOUR SCHEMES.

DON'T PUT ME ON THE SAME LOW LEVEL AS THAT DUMB TRAMP.

...A-

...

AAAAHHHH!

WHSH

?!

THWACK

...!

SZZZT!

GAAH ...!

...!

NO... NO... DON'T!

WHY... YOU...!!

A-AHH...

LEAP

WHIP

HOW DARE YOU - ...!

SMACK

AAAAAHHH...!

FLARE!

BRING HER BACK...

BRING MERCURIO BACK - !!!

MR. HARUHIKO, PLEASE STOP!!

PLEASE... THAT'S ENOUGH!!

WHUMP

PLEASE STOP - I'VE HAD ENOUGH!

SNAP!

HRGH ...!

HAH!

OH...

OH...

OH, NO... I'M SORRY ...

CRACKLE

THUD

M... MERCURIO ?!

UGH...

MR. HARUHIKO ...!

CRACKLE

IT IS OKAY... THIS IS ENOUGH.

DON'T ...!

MR. HARUHIKO... I AM SORRY.

PUSH

I'M SORRY! ARE YOU ALRIGH-...

GASP...!

THERE WAS NEVER ANY REASON... FOR YOU AND MISS MERCURIO...

...TO FIGHT IN THE FIRST PLACE.

HUH...? ENOUGH ...?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN ...?

BECAUSE OF ME...MR. HARUHIKO...YOUR PERSONALITY IS BECOMING... SCARIER AND SCARIER...

UGH ...!

SNAP!

WHAT ...?

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?! IT'S TOO LATE NOW!!

RUSTLE...

I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU LIKE THIS...

MR. HARUHIKO.

SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE

Y-YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT!

COME ON - LET'S HURRY AND GO SEE PARACELSUS.

...!

...!

MERCURIO ...!

I AM THE ONE...

...WHO INVADED MISS MERCURIO'S BODY.

I'VE...FELT ALL ALONG...THAT WHAT I DID WAS WRONG.

BUT...I WANTED SO BADLY... TO LIVE.

...I KNOW THAT.

BUT THAT'S - ...IT DOESN'T - ...

I WAS SO WEAK...I HAD NO POWERS...I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING.

NO ONE NOTICED ME...AND BEFORE I COULD DISCOVER WHY I HAD EVEN BEEN BORN -

A LITTLE DIFFERENT.

AMONG DEMONS, I WAS ALWAYS...

NOT LIKE THIS... WITHOUT BEING ACKNOWL-EDGED BY ANYONE...

I NO...I DON'T WANT TO DIE...

I WAS KILLED...

I WASN'T ABLE TO PROPERLY ENTER HER BODY...

BUT MR. CAGLIOSTRO HELPED ME...

C... CAGLIO-STRO?

HE IS THE ONE...WHO CONSTRUCTED THE UNIT.

I AM SORRY... I JUST -

I JUST WANTED TO BE USEFUL TO SOMEONE ...!

INADEQUATE AS I AM...I WANTED TO BE ALLOWED TO HELP...

CRACKLE

SNAP

I VOWED... TO ALWAYS DO MY VERY BEST...

...BUT ALL I EVER DID WAS FAIL!

EVEN THE ENGRAVING... I STARTED IT HOPING IT WOULD SOMEDAY BE USEFUL...

I...

STOP IT.

CRACKLE

EVEN THOUGH I CAN CAST NO ENCHANT-MENTS...

EVEN THOUGH MISS MERCURIO IS SO MUCH BETTER AT IT THAN ME...!

JUST STOP IT. DON'T TALK LIKE THAT ABOUT YOURSELF.

I...LIKE YOU JUST THE WAY YOU ARE, MER.

EVEN THOUGH YOU STUMBLE AND FALL, YOU ALWAYS GET BACK UP.

YOU'RE KIND AND CARING. I LOVE THAT ABOUT YOU.

SNAP!

AAGH!

MR. HARUHIKO ...

I...HAVE HEARD...THAT YOU MIGHT BE MADE INTO A "RECEPTACLE"...

SO...I MUST... RETURN MISS MERCURIO'S BODY TO HER...

DARN! I'VE GOT TO HURRY!

EUKANARIA! CONNECT ME TO PARACELSUS' PLACE!

I...DO NOT WANT THAT TO HAPPEN...

NO. SMILE

SHAKE SHAKE

ぶる ぶる

THAT'S NOT...

RUSTLE...

さっ

IT DOESN'T MATTER ABOUT ME. YOU ASKED ME TO FIX YOU -...

WH-...

WHY?! ARE YOU SAYING YOU DON'T THINK I CAN REPAIR YOU?!

RUSTLE...

THAT IS NOT IT...

I AM SORRY... THIS HAS ALL BEEN DUE...TO MY SELFISH WHIM.

NO -

RUSTLE...

I KNEW IT WAS WRONG...

...AND IT WAS SO HARD TO LIVE - BUT...

WAFT

MERCURIO IS -...

...BECAUSE I DID, I WAS ABLE TO MEET YOU, MR. HARUHIKO.

IN REALITY, I SHOULD BE DEAD...

SHE'S GOING TO DISAPPEAR ...!

MR. HARUHIKO ...

WAS I USEFUL TO YOU...?

I LOVE YOU, MR. HARUHIKO...

IT WAS ALL SO FUN...

PLEASE SAY THANK YOU...TO YOUR FRIENDS FOR ME, TOO...

YOU ARE SO KIND...AND YOU TRY SO HARD...

PLEASE STAY THAT WAY... ALWAYS ---

...

SNAP!

チ-ン

ООО

HSOOHM

FLAP

OH!

WHOOOSH...

OHHH - ...

THE WINDOW WAS OPEN...

YIKES!

FLAP

SO WINDY...THE PAPERS FLEW AWAY! I'LL HAVE TO GO FIND THEM.

HOW GOES IT, MS. FUJIKAWA? CAN YOU HANDLE IT?

OH... YES.

I'M... READING THE INSTRUC-TIONS NOW.

6YU

UMM...YES, I THINK I CAN DO IT.

UHH...FIRST, REMOVE THE SIDE PANEL...

SORRY... BUT SINCE YOU'RE THE YOUNGEST, I THOUGHT YOU'D BE THE BEST PERSON TO ASK...

CLINK

CLINK

U... UMMPH.

HUH...? H-HOW DO YOU OPEN THIS...?

WE HAD A TEACHER WHO UNDERSTOOD COMPUTERS UNTIL LAST YEAR, BUT...

HEY, THAT'S RIGHT -

ISN'T THERE A STUDENT WHO'S GOOD AT THIS? A SECOND-YEAR GUY...

OH...YOU MEAN HARUHI-... I MEAN, KANOU-KUN?

YES, YES - THAT'S RIGHT! KANOU.

LET'S HAVE HIM HELP US. COULD YOU CALL HIM DOWN HERE?

S-SURE ...

コツ
TAP!

AM I ALWAYS RELYING ON HARUHIKO-KUN'S HELP...?

コツ
TAP

...
SOMEHOW
...

コツ
TAP

...
...
...

HARUHIKO-KUN...

M...MISS MERCURIO...

-:SOB:-...

DOOOOM...

-:HIC:-

-:HIC:-

-:HIC:-

CHAPTER 7

CHATTER

ANYWAY -

YOU STAY THERE AND COOL DOWN.

CHATTER

WHAT HAVE YOU GUYS BEEN DOING...?

BA-THUMP!

WHAT'S UP, KIMURA? NEED HARUHIKO FOR SOME-THING?

O... OH -... UHH...

THIS IS THE OSHIRUKO MY CLASS IS SELLING...

I JUST WANTED KANOU TO TRY IT...

W...WOULD YOU LIKE SOME, MOTOKI?

DON'T CRY...-- HERE!

...
...
...

HK
HK
HK
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE

CHOMP
はむ!!

CHEER UP -

ねぁっ!
AAH!

M-MOTOKI, YOU IDIOT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

AND KIMURA! DON'T FEED WILD ANIMALS!

AAAAGGHH!!

CALM DOWN—!!

LET GO OF ME -

OH -

MS. FUJIKAWA ...

RATTLE...

BAM

U

W... WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS?

GAPAPAH

GYU

CLATTER

"MISS MER"...?

HARUHIKO? I THINK HE'S OUTSIDE.

I JUST... HAVE A SMALL JOB FOR HIM...

UM...IS KANOU-KUN HERE?

WAAAHHHH

HE'S NOT HERE.

GEEZ, WOULD YOU SHUT UP ALREADY, MOTOKI?!

WHY?! MISS MER, YUKA-CHAN ...WHY DOES EVERYONE ONLY WANT TO SEE HARUHIKO?!

2-E区
ユーティリティ
enchant.35
UTILITY

RUSTLE...
HARUHIKO-KUN...?

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU - AND HERE YOU ARE!

(YU

UM...I HAVE A LITTLE FAVOR TO ASK...

TAP...

...OH -

YUKA...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ALONE...?

YOU SEE, A COMPUTER IN THE FACULTY OFFICE...

IT'S NEW...? AND UH... OH - WHAT WAS IT AGAIN...?

YEAH...

YOU SEEM A LITTLE DOWN...

IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?

WH... WHAT'S WRONG, HARUHIKO-KUN?

ARE YOU HURT?

...

...!

HUH ...?

OH...I... I'M SORRY...

UM... SORRY, BUT -

PLEASE DON'T LOOK AT ME RIGHT NOW...

RUSTLE

I JUST CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT...AND I REALLY TRIED...

I'M SO SORRY I ASK FOR YOUR HELP ALL THE TIME LIKE THIS...

BLUSH...

かあ...

UM...I FEEL BAD ABOUT BOTHERING YOU WITH THIS...

I MEAN, I TRIED TO DO IT ON MY OWN, BUT -

YOU MUST BE SICK OF IT BY NOW...

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO, IT'S FINE -I'LL TRY AGAIN ON MY OWN...

.....I'M SORRY.

...I COULDN'T HELP HER...

...

I'M SORRY ...

IT'S MY FAULT...I COULDN'T FIX HER...

HARUHIKO-KUN?

WHY DID THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN?

WHERE DID I GO WRONG...?!

PARACELSUS !!

MERCURIO'S DISAPPE-...

HEY!

PLEASE HELP HER!!

...YES.

SO YOU GUYS ARE HERE, TOO.

YOU WERE EXPECTING HARUHIKO TO SHOW UP?

AND FROM HERE, WE COULD MONITOR THE BOY, TOO.

WE'D SENSED MERCURIO'S PERSONALITIES SWITCHING IN AND OUT A LOT LATELY.

YOU SAW ...?!

...!

SORRY, BUT WE SAW THE WHOLE THING.

WHAT OF IT?

YOU GUYS WERE WATCHING THE WHOLE TIME?!

WHAT ...?!

THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU HELP?!

STOP IT, HARUHIKO ...

YAMATO... HILBRECHT ...YOU BOTH KNEW!

SHUT UP!

YOU KNEW ABOUT MER AND JUST LEFT HER LIKE THAT?!

...
...
...?!

NEVER MIND, EUKANARIA - LET HIM GO.

FOR INSTANCE, IF YOU HAD BEEN ABLE TO KEEP THE DEMON MERCURIO ALIVE -

HARUHIKO ...

ARE YOU SAYING YOU COULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING FOR HER?

WHAT WERE YOU GOING TO DO AFTER THAT?

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY? LOOK AFTER HER FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE?

WHAT THEN?

LOOK AFTER ...?!

WITH THE NOBLEST OF INTENTIONS, YOU SAVE HER...BUT A WOMAN RIDDLED WITH GUILT - AS SHE WOULD HAVE BEEN - WOULD SURELY HAVE LEANED ON YOU FOR SUPPORT.

WOULD YOU HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PUSH HER AWAY AND TELL HER, "LIVE ON YOUR OWN"? OR WOULD YOU HAVE LEFT HER IN THE CARE OF SOMEONE?

ISN'T THERE ALREADY ANOTHER WOMAN YOU LOVE?

...
...
...!

S...

SO...

YOU'RE SAYING IT WAS...

...BETTER TO JUST LEAVE HER...?!

BUT I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT FROM A SPECTATOR!!

IF YOU THINK ME A FOOL, FINE! CALL ME INADE-QUATE!!

STOP IT, HARUHIKO!

BUT WHATEVER OUR FEELINGS, THEY ONLY AMOUNT TO SELFISH WHIMS.

EMOTIONALLY, YOU ARE IN THE RIGHT...

SEEING YOU, MERCURIO REGRETTED THE CONSEQUENCES OF HER ACTIONS - AND VOLUNTARILY LET GO OF YOUR HAND.

DO YOU NOT UNDERSTAND THE REASON? ...I THINK YOU DO.

YOU ARE WISE.

NO...I -

THIS ISN'T WHAT I WANT TO SAY...

I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY, YAMATO...

JUST BECAUSE I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HER DOESN'T MEAN IT WOULD HAVE BEEN OKAY TO IGNORE HER PLIGHT.

THAT'S NOT - ...

I -...

HMPH.

TAP...

I PROMISED HER...THAT I WOULD FIX HER...

KCHAK

YOU CERTAINLY ARE STUBBORN.

GIVE UP - YOUR "MER" IS ALREADY GONE. HER TIME WAS UP.

...THOUGH YOU CERTAINLY GAVE HER - AND ME - A STRUGGLE AT THE END.

YOU GUYS ARE LOUD - TAKE IT OUTSIDE.

CREAK

THIS INVOLVES YOU, TOO, DOCTOR.

OOH, SCARY.

NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF YOU HADN'T ATTACHED THE UNIT.

WHAT ...?!

DON'T PUSH ME TOO FAR OR I'LL DO SOMETHING DIRTY...

LIKE I TOLD YOU -

I HELP EVERYONE WHO WANTS TO LIVE.

A MAN'S GOTTA STICK TO HIS OWN PHILOSOPHY OR IT'S ALL MEANINGLESS!

...

IT WOULD BE POINTLESS. I DO NOT START FIGHTS I CANNOT WIN.

"DIRTY"

CARE TO TAKE A SWING AT ME?

...IF IT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER. I WON'T FIGHT IT.

TAP...

TAP

...YES.

YOU MUST BE JOKING! TEN YEARS OF MY LIFE HAVE BEEN WASTED!

REALLY?

WELL, THINK OF ALL THIS AS CHARITY. FIND IT IN YOUR HEART TO FORGIVE, EH?

WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, I WAS IN DARKNESS, TOO.

TAP

WISHING TO BE SURROUNDED ONLY BY PEOPLE YOU LIKE -

SUCH WISHES ONLY BRING YOU ***GRIEF!***

...
...
...!

I MUST SAY, YOU CERTAINLY WENT OUT OF YOUR WAY...

...TO TREAT ME AS IF I WERE UNNECESSARY!

THE DOCTOR NOW HAS THE UNIT THAT WAS EMBEDDED IN ME.

YOU MAY DO WITH IT AS YOU WISH.

MISS AI, COULD YOU OPEN THE PORTAL FOR ME? THERE'S SOMEWHERE I HAVE TO BE.

IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME -

TAP

TAP

NOD

HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT SINCE YOU WERE A KID.

YOU SURE ARE HARSH ...

HARUHIKO ...

FORCING A SOUL INTO ANOTHER WITHOUT MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS ONLY RESULTS IN THE DESTRUCTION OF BOTH SOULS.

IF THEY WEREN'T AT LEAST COMPARTMEN-TALIZED, BOTH OF THEM WOULD'VE DIED - SEE?

IT WAS YOUR FAULT?!

HEY, BONES -

DID YOU REALLY ATTACH THE UNIT? I NEVER HEARD THAT.

...
...
...

I DON'T KNOW WHY CAGLIOSTRO MADE THE UNIT IN THE FIRST PLACE, THOUGH.

HE REALLY DOES CAUSE PROBLEMS.

SO, CAGLIOSTRO REALLY IS BEHIND THIS?!

I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS SUCH A BAD IDEA...

HEY, HARUHIKO!

AFTER ALL, SHE GOT TO MEET PEOPLE SHE OTHERWISE WOULDN'T HAVE.

!

THINK OF THE MERCURIO YOU KNEW AS HAVING REACHED THE END OF HER LIFESPAN.

THIS DEVICE WAS INTENDED TO OPERATE FOR ONLY A TEN-YEAR PERIOD ANYWAY - A SECRET, BY THE WAY.

THAT'S THE TIME LIMIT CAGLIOSTRO GAVE MERCURIO TO LIVE.

--- IF THAT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL ANY BETTER.

SO... ARE YOU SAYING ...

AFTER ALL, YOUR REASONS AND MINE ARE DIFFERENT.

...SHE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN SAVED ANYWAY...?

WHAT IS THIS...?

SUCH A TINY THING... IS THIS WHAT WAS CONTROLLING MER...?!

...DIFFERENT FROM YAMATO AND HILBRECHT'S REASONING AS WELL, I'M SURE.

AND REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THAT UNIT IS EVER REPAIRED, THE GIRL'S STRENGTH IS SPENT.

GO AHEAD - TAKE IT.

DO WHAT YOU WANT WITH IT.

...ALL I KNOW IS THAT MERCURIO ASKED ME TO HELP HER.

WHETHER OR NOT THERE WERE DEALS I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT...

RUSTLE...

I-

I PROMISED I'D FIX HER...

WHOOSH

HARUHIKO-KUN...

I DON'T UNDER-STAND... "FIX" WHO...?

HARUHIKO-KUN.

REALLY - WHAT'S WRONG?

OH...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO... I DON'T UNDERSTAND, HARUHIKO-KUN...

OROO...

GYU...

SHE...

...CAME TO ME FOR HELP, BUT I DIDN'T MAKE IT IN TIME...

EVEN IF I STARTED NOW, I COULD NEVER DO IT - IT'S TOO HARD!

YOU'RE SO GOOD AT REPAIRS.

MACHINES AND THINGS... IS THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN'T FIX?

UNTIL NOW, I'VE WORKED ON FIXING THINGS FOR YOUR SAKE, YUKA...

I THOUGHT THAT WOULD SOMEHOW MAKE ME USEFUL...

...BUT NOW I SEE IT'S JUST NOT ENOUGH...

HAH!

...
...
...

YOU'VE BEEN... DOING IT FOR ME...?

OH... UH -

N...NO - THAT'S NOT -

M-MAKING AND REPAIRING ALL THOSE THINGS...

YOU WERE DOING IT ALL...FOR MY SAKE...?

NOT...

...FOR YOUR OWN SAKE?!

HARUHIKO-KUN... WHY...?

W-...

"WHY?" YUKA -...

PIT

HUH? B...BUT YUKA...

DIDN'T YOU HAVE AN ERRAND FOR ME - ?

IT'S FINE!

PATTER

..... GO BACK TO YOUR CLASSROOM, HARUHIKO-KUN.

...EVERYONE IS PREPARING FOR THE FESTIVAL.

RUSTLE...

IT'S... OKAY.

I'M SORRY FOR TROUBLING YOU...

PLEASE STOP!!

MR. HARUHIKO ...I AM SORRY...

OH...

IT IS OKAY... THIS IS ENOUGH.

YUKA-!

IT'S BEGINNING TO RAIN.

PLEASE, HURRY BACK TO CLASS...

BUSTLE

BUSTLE

OH, NO! BRING ALL THE STUFF INSIDE!

BUT THE PAINT HASN'T DRIED!

SHAAA...

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

HEY!

OH! WATCH OUT!

UM... HEY?!

MERCURIO VOLUNTARILY LET GO OF MY HAND.

DID THAT MEAN SHE DIDN'T NEED ME?

SHAAA...

WHAT THE HECK IS THIS...

SPLASH...

SHAAA

WAS I OF NO USE TO HER -?

AND NOW - EVEN YUKA... WHY?

ALL I WANTED WAS TO HELP THEM...

LEARN TO READ THE SITUATION, EUKANARIA.

SHAAAA

DO IT JUMP! JUMP!!

IF YOU KNEW, WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP?

IT'S NOT EVEN THAT FUNNY A GAG...

PART III MAY EVEN BE OUT SOON, SO...

SPLASH

OHHH - I HAD A FEELING MY TIMING WAS OFF, BUT...

EVEN I COULD TELL THAT MUCH...

SPLASH

SHAAA...

...

YEAH... WHY?

HEY...

ARE YOU OKAY, HARUHIKO?

YOU'LL GET SICK IF YOU STAY OUT HERE, YOU KNOW?

URRM ...

...COME ON, LET'S GO INSIDE... BEFORE YOU CATCH A COLD.

TAKE OFF THAT DUMB WIG FIRST.

THAT'S - ...

THAT'S TRUE, BUT...

SHAAA...

BE QUIET.

YOU'RE ONLY WORRIED ABOUT MY BODY AGAIN.

I THOUGHT IT WOULD HELP EASE THE TENSION.

YOU DID A GOOD JOB, HARUHIKO.

RUMMAGE

RUMMAGE

YOU LEFT THIS GUN BEHIND...

YOU MADE IT FOR TRAINING PURPOSES, RIGHT? ...WITH THE ATTRIBUTE THAT IT ONLY WORKS ON DEMONS, SO AS NOT TO HURT YAMATO?

I'M PROUD OF YOU, HARUHIKO...

BUT... IT WAS USELESS AFTER ALL.

I HAD NO INTENTION OF PULLING THE TRIGGER ANYWAY, BUT...I COULD NEVER USE IT.

SHAAAA

THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE THE PARTICULAR SITUATION DIDN'T CALL FOR IT.

DON'T...DON'T PUT DOWN YOUR OWN CREATIONS. IT'S NOT FAIR TO THE IMPLEMENTS.

GORF!

THOK

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO -

JUST GIVE IT!!

"MUGGING"!

HUH...?

HEY...

LET ME SEE MER'S UNIT.

SHAAA...

...SO THIS IS IT.

IT'S SO TINY.

...

MER WILL NEVER BE BACK AGAIN, BUT...

DO YOU THINK...

YOU COULD USE THIS YOURSELF, HARUHIKO?

...WHAT?

CAGLIOSTRO IS A GENIUS.

I'M SURE YOU COULD LEARN A LOT FROM STUDYING THIS UNIT.

YOU'VE BEEN WORKING ALL THIS TIME TO GET FULCANELLI BACK FOR ME, RIGHT?

COME ON, HARUHIKO -

DO IT FOR ME!

CAN'T YOU USE THIS TO MAKE SOMETHING THAT ALLOWS ME TO TALK TO FULCANELLI?

I JUST ASKED HILBRECHT - AND HE SAID, "IT'S NOT BROKEN."

I WISH YOU WOULDN'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT, HARUHIKO! I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS GOING TO DO WITH YOU!

OH, RIGHT!

BUT DON'T YOU REMEMBER - ABOUT THE DEMON-STONE WITH FULCANELLI'S SOUL...?

YEAH! ABOUT THAT -

YOU...

YOU ONLY EVER THINK ABOUT YOURSELF, DON'T YOU?

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN YOU'D NEVER DO ANYTHING LIKE BREAK IT...I'M SORRY I DOUBTED YOU.

SO COME ON, HARUHIKO... YOU CAN DO IT - PLEASE?

WELL... SO WHAT?

I CAN'T CONSTRUCT ENCHANTED IMPLEMENTS ...

THAT'S WHY I'M ASKING YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

POUT...

-:URK:-

Y...YOU REALLY THINK SO...? BUT...

"WANTING TO BE USEFUL TO SOMEONE"-

THAT'S PROBABLY JUST A SELFISH WHIM.

IS THAT...

WRONG...?

...

...ARE YOU CRYING, HARUHIKO?

COME ON, HARUHIKO ...

LET'S GO BACK IN.

SQUEEZE

...SHUT UP.

ARE YOU AT THAT AGE?

YOU SURE CRY A LOT, DON'T YOU...?

RUB

THERE, THERE—

AND YET ...

THEY'RE ALL WAITING FOR YOU.

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BUILD THE STAND FOR THEM, AREN'T YOU?

DON'T LOOK AT ME SO MUCH.

"I VOWED TO ALWAYS DO MY VERY BEST..."

AND YET -

"I JUST WANTED TO BE USEFUL TO SOMEONE."

SPLISH

COME ON - RUN!

I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE THAT IT'S WRONG.

HEY - WATCH IT, OR YOU'LL TRIP!

SPLASH

RUSH!

MR. HARUHIKO -!

WELCOME BACK -!!

CLATTER...

WHAT'S UP WITH YOU, MOTOKI...?

SO ANNOYING...

UM, WELL... MISS MERCURIO CAME BACK, YOU SEE...

SLAM

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

GORF!

TAP

TAP

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, MR. HARUHIKO?

YOU ARE LATE!

WHAT?!

DASH!

DU-DUN!

IF YOU ARE GOING TO HELP PREPARE FOR THE EVENT, PLEASE RETURN MORE PROMPTLY!

YOU ARE INCONVE-NIENCING YOUR CLASS-MATES!

FOLLOW THROUGH - IF YOU'RE GOING TO DO SOME-THING, DO IT! THAT GOES FOR YOU, TOO, MISS EUKANARIA!

ME?

I CAME TO TEACH ENGRAVING!

I HAD NO CHOICE - I CANNOT STAND TO LEAVE THINGS HALF-FINISHED!

WHY ARE YOU HERE - ?!

DIDN'T THAT MAKE YOU SUSPICIOUS, MOTOKI?!

IT'S A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON!!

HA HA HA

おっほっほ

SHAKE

SHAKE

SHE SEEMS A BIT DIFFERENT, BUT...

QUIET DOWN!!

DON'T BABBLE! GET TO WORK!!

WHO ARE YOU CALLING "MASTER" ...?

I HAVEN'T TAUGHT YOU ANYTHING YET.

CREAK...

ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?!

MASTER CAGLIOSTRO -!

THAT'S WHAT I'M SAYING!

PLEASE, START TODAY!

I CAN'T EVEN ANALYZE THE ENCHANTED IMPLEMENTS YOU CONSTRUCT!

CHUCKLE CHUCKLE...

WHY WOULD I HAVE *THAT?*

AT LEAST GIVE ME A COMPILER -

MASTER, IT'S BECAUSE YOU CONSTRUCT THE ENTIRE SYSTEM ON YOUR OWN!

WHA-...!

MRGH!

WELL, THAT'S DUE TO YOUR LACK OF SKILL.

ZING!

...LET ME GIVE YOU THIS BOOK.

THE UNIVERSE IS EXTREMELY BEAUTIFUL IN ITS SIMPLICITY.

IT ONLY LOOKS COMPLICATED.

THERE ARE ONLY TWO TYPES OF THINGS IN THIS WORLD -

"SWITCHED ON" OR "SWITCHED OFF."

I DON'T WANT IT!!!

NO, IT'S AN ENGLISH PORN NOVEL.

THWAP!

!!

HUH...?

SERI-OUSLY ?!

COULD THIS BE SOMETHING YOU'VE WRITTEN YOURSELF, MASTER?!

VWM...

GRR...! WELL, I'LL LEAVE FOR NOW SINCE I HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL...

BUT I'LL BE BACK AFTER I'M DONE!

PLEASE BE HERE WHEN I RETURN!

TAP

SUIT YOURSELF.

VWM

U... UM...

I THINK I'LL TAKE THIS BOOK AFTER ALL...

SLIDE...

...

...

...

VWOM...

VWOM...

...

...

...

CHUCKLE

...SO GREEN ...

CREAK...

HEY, NANAERA!

HOKUTO IS STILL A NORMAL HUMAN, ISN'T HE?

NANAERA !!

TAP TAP

HURRY UP AND BIND A CONTRACT WITH HIM AS YOUR ENCHANTER. WHAT'S THE HOLD-UP?

Y-YES...

COMING, SIR...

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT A PAPER CONTRACT - I MEAN A PHYSICAL-BONDED CONTRACT. GOT THAT?

RIGHT NOW, HE'S USELESS. I NEED HIM TO...GROW UP A BIT.

Y... YES...

エンチャント
enchant:36
THE KOKONOE SIBLINGS
このえきょうだい
九重姉弟

HMM...

HAVING SAID THAT -...

CLAKKA CLAKKA

CLAK

CLAK...

OHHH -

IT'S A HASSLE TO GO TO COLLEGE...

IT'S ONLY GENERAL EDUCATION - ARE CLASS CREDITS REALLY NECESSARY FOR LIFE...?

FLOP

WHSH!

!

MR. HOKUTO -

...THIS IS HOT...

IS THE MASTER ALWAYS READING STUFF LIKE THIS?

I WISH I COULD JUST SPECIALIZE IN MY MAJOR...

...MAYBE I'LL POP IN AT THE SCHOOL LAB.

FLAP

パラ

I... PREPARED SOME FOOD FOR YOU.

P...PLEASE EAT BEFORE YOU GO TO SCHOOL.

TAP

トン

BESIDES, YOUR COOKING SUCKS.

ZING!

WHAT?!

I DON'T WANT IT. I'M NOT GOING TO CLASS.

ZA-ZING!

WHAAAT ?!

HMPH

OHHHH!

BAM!!

EVEN A CHILD CAN MAKE CURRY!! IN FACT, IT'S AN INSULT TO CALL WHAT YOU MADE "CURRY"!

IF THAT'S HOW YOU FEEL, WHY DON'T YOU IMPROVE?!

O... OHH...

I - I AM AWARE OF MY INADEQUACY, BUT...

TOSS - ポーン

WHAT WAS THAT HALF-RAW THING YOU TRIED TO FEED ME YESTERDAY?!

FLOP...

WHEW —

URK!...I ...I AM SORRY...

ALL YOU DO IS WASTE INGREDIENTS!

I DON'T HAVE MONEY TO SPARE, YOU KNOW!

...IF YOU DO NOT EAT, YOUR HEALTH WILL FAIL...

SOB SOB

I SWEAR ...

WATCHING YOU ANNOYS ME TO DEATH!

YOU DO THINGS OVER AND OVER AND STILL CAN'T GET IT RIGHT - WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?!

ARE YOU EVEN TRYING?!

YOU ARE ABLE TO LEARN AND DO EVERYTHING SO QUICKLY...BUT... I...UM...

カチャ
CLINK

Y...YOU ARE SO GIFTED, MR. HOKUTO...

THAT'S NOT IT!

I'M ASKING IF YOU ***REALLY*** MAKE AN EFFORT!

YOU...!

MRRGH...

TJ-JA...

I...I AM SORRY...

W...WELL, UM... THAT'S -... UHH...

IT'S NOT LIKE I JUST BREEZE THROUGH EVERYTHING, YOU KNOW!

THE REASON YOU'RE USELESS IS BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT REALLY TRYING SERIOUSLY, *RIGHT?!*

BAM

BAM

BAM

BAM

BAM

HOKUTO -!!

HEY, HOKUTO! ARE YOU HOME -?!

JUMP!

HI N...

WHOA?!

JUMP!

HI N...!

H...HUH?

THUMP THUMP

YIKES... OH GOD, IT'S BIG SIS!

NANA, GET OUT OF SIGHT - *QUICK!*

BAM

BAM

BAM

COME ON, HURRY AND OPEN UP! MY ARMS ARE FULL!

THUD

THUD

HUH?

BAM...

THUD

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

CLICK

YOU TOOK TOO LONG!

OH - Y-Y-Y-YES!

YIPE!

HEY!

BAM

BAM

SHOVE

JUST HURRY UP!

OKAY, OKAY!! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!!

BAM

I DON'T HAVE ANY...

DUN!

DDD

WHAT WERE YOU UP TO, HOKUTO?

HIDING YOUR PORN?!

WAIT A MINUTE - YOU HAD A KEY ALL ALONG!

HAVE YOU BEEN CLEANING UP AFTER YOURSELF PROPERLY?

PATTER

PATTER

WAIT A -

I TOLD YOU NOT TO PUT BOOKS ON THE FLOOR! THAT'S UN-STUDENT-LIKE BEHAVIOR!

PATTER

SIS!

OH, NO - I FORGOT!!

THIS IS PORN !!

155KM/H STRAIGHT BALL

OHHH-

OH... SORRY - I WAS JUST READING THAT ONE, SO...

FLIP

WHAT IS IT? KNOWING YOU, I BET IT'S A TEXT ON ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING - ...

MR. HOKUTO'S ...OLDER SISTER...?

"BIG SIS"...?

HEY, HOKUTO, GO GET MY BAGS!

N-NO, I JUST B-BORROWED IT...UH...

YOUR BIG SIS IS ASHAMED OF YOU...!!

AND IT'S FOREIGN, TO BOOT...A SPECIALIZED FETISH...!!

SOB...!!

SORRY ...

I THOUGHT I'D GO IN AT NOON TODAY...

HM?

I WANT TO COOK YOU SOMETHING!

HEH

W...WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR? AND WITHOUT CALLING FIRST...

OH? DID YOU ALREADY MAKE A MEAL?

OH... N-NO, THAT...

HUH?! WHAT ABOUT WORK?!

?

HUH? THAT'S STRANGE - YOU USUALLY DO EVERYTHING WELL, HOKUTO.

=URK!=

...DIDN'T COME OUT VERY GOOD, SO...

WILL YOU MAKE ME SOMETHING, SIS?

DOOM

GET THE POT FOR ME! THE POT, THE POT! I CAN'T REACH!

HOKUTO - ! C'MERE!

REACH

LISTEN TO ME, DAMMIT...!

...
...
...

N...NOT AS WELL AS YOU, SIS...

REACH

"NO ONE ELSE"...? WHO?

NEVER MIND ME - ARE *YOU* EATING PROPERLY, SIS?

IT'S FINE FOR YOU, HOKUTO - YOU'RE TALL.

BUT IF YOU PUT IT UP THERE, NO ONE ELSE CAN GET IT!

MY BAD ...!

KA-BLAM!

DON'T BRING UP THE HEIGHT OF YOUR SISTER!!

MACH SPEED!

W...

WELL... CUZ YOU'RE STILL AS SHORT AS EVER...

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

URGH...

TREMBLE...

MY JOB, BOSSES, CLIENTS - YOU'RE ALL THE SAME!

RIP!

GRRR!

IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS, DANG IT!! JUDGE MY ABILITY!!

MAKING FUN OF ME BECAUSE OF MY SIZE - IT'S CHILDISH!!

SPLOOOSH

I GUESS I HAVE IT EASIER SINCE MY WORK IS BASED ON TECHNICAL SKILL.

OH, BUT THIS NEWBIE JUST JOINED, AND -

THUNK THUNK THUNK...

ALREADY?!

EH... NORMAL.

I'M ALWAYS IN THE LAB, THOUGH.

I DIDN'T GET THERE 'TIL I WAS A SENIOR!

SO -

HOW'S SCHOOL?

MM -...

GLANCE...

THAT'S WHY I'M DOING MY OWN ON THE SIDE...

YOUR OWN ...?

LIKE PROGRAM-MING OR SOME-THING?

KNOWING YOU, YOU MUST BE DOING WELL.

...YEAH, BUT I DIDN'T REALIZE WE ONLY DO BASIC RESEARCH IN COLLEGE...

WAIT! TH- THAT'S...

WHAT'S THIS? A CAMERA...OR GLASSES OF SOME SORT?

FOR FUN, HUH ...

?

#10 CAMERA

WHOA — HOW STUDENT-ISH!

YOU'RE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING ...RIGHT?

IS THAT YOUR STUFF OVER THERE?

OH...THOSE I MADE FOR FUN. NOW, I'M WORKING ON STUFF LIKE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE...

HEY, SIS - WILL YOU TAKE A LOOK AT SOME-THING?

...
...
...

I GUESS IT DOESN'T MATTER...

WELL...I WISH THEY DID BUT...

OH - DON'T TELL ME! CAN YOU SEE THROUGH CLOTHES WITH THEM? OR ANALYZE YOUR OPPONENT'S BATTLE STRENGTH?!

THIS IS GREAT, HOKUTO! YOU'LL MAKE MILLIONS!

IT SUITS HER... TOO WELL...

VWEEE EEEE....

PFFT♥

BUT SOMETHING'S KINDA STRANGE...

IT'S ALL FLOATY —

HMM ...?

HAHA! I SEE A TEENY HOKUTO!

SO CUTE BACK THEN —

WHAT DO YOU SEE WHEN YOU LOOK AT THIS, SIS?

HUH...!

...
...
...!

H-H-HOKUTO!

HOW?! D-DID YOU MAKE THIS?!!

CLATTER!

WHOA!

HUUUUH?!! HOW?! WHY?!

B...BUT HOW? IT SHOULD TAKE SOMETHING MORE LARGE-SCALE!

THIS IS A 3D IMAGE COMPOSITE SYSTEM!

HEH HEH...

HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?

OH... UHH... UM...

OH, AND THE IMAGE DIFFERS DEPENDING ON THE USER, TOO.

STILL - HOW DID YOU DO THIS WITH JUST GLASSES AND THAT SCREEN?!

OH - DID YOU INPUT THE IMAGE DATA OF YOURSELF IN HERE?

WHUMP

あああ

T.HUO

NOOOO - ! PLEASE LET ME TAKE IT TO WORK!

I WANNA LOOK INSIDE! I WANNA CHECK IT OUT!

SUUU

I SAID NO!! GIVE IT BACK!!

OFF TO WORK!

IT REPLICATES THE EXACT IMAGE IN YOUR HEAD -

GRAB

LEAVE IT HERE, SIS!!

HEY!

...HOW DOES THIS WORK? C'MON, TELL ME!

IT'S A SECRET ...

IT'S TRUE DEVICES EXIST THAT DETECT SENSATION THROUGH ELECTRODES DIRECTLY EMBEDDED IN THE BRAIN, BUT...

...BUT THIS REALLY IS FANTASTIC.

I'LL LEAVE THESE GLASSES HERE - BUT I WANT YOU TO BRING THEM IN YOURSELF!

...OKAY. I GET IT, HOKUTO.

HUH?

YOU CAN COME DOWN TO MY WORK-PLACE...

...OR, IF YOU WANT TO STUDY EVEN HIGHER UP, I'LL ARRANGE IT.

IT'S ONLY RIGHT WHEN YOU ALWAYS TRY SO HARD!

NO -

I NEVER DREAMED YOU WERE SUCH A TALENTED BOY...

SEE YA, HOKUTO-CHAN~ KEEP WORKING HARD~ ♪

...THEN, AFTER DOING AND SAYING ALL SHE WANTED -

MY SISTER LEFT.

I'LL WORK HARD, TOO~ ♡

MAY I COME OUT NOW...?

!

MR. HOKUTO ...

U... UM...

GLATTER...

ガラ...

→SIGH←

GUESS I'LL GO TO SCHOOL AFTER ALL...

ALL THIS STUFF... TAKING UP SPACE...

WHAT ?!

B-BUT YOU TOLD ME TO REMAIN IN HERE...

OH... YOU'RE STILL HERE?

DOOOM

SHE CAN DO EVERYTHING.

YOU MAY NOT REALIZE IT, BUT SHE'S A SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING GENIUS.

DOOOM

URK...

YOUR SISTER IS A VERY ENERGETIC PERSON...

HMM— WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH THIS...?

BUT...

I'VE GOT TO BECOME GOOD ENOUGH SO SHE'LL ACKNOWLEDGE MY SKILLS, TOO!

...YEAH, THE COMPLETE OPPOSITE OF YOU.

...IT IS NOT GOOD TO LIE.

THAT ENCHANTED IMPLEMENT WAS CONSTRUCTED BY MR. CAGLIOSTRO.

ヒョ
JUMP!
ヒョ
DU

THWAP!

I KNOW THAT!!

!!

WHY DO YOU THINK I WORK SO HARD TO MAKE SOMETHING LIKE IT?!

KEEP YOUR OPINIONS TO YOURSELF!!

G...!

I...

I AM SORRY...

OHH...

I AM SO SORRY, MR. HOKUTO ...

UGH...

SO ANNOYING ...!

I'M ANNOYED AT MYSELF. I DIDN'T MEAN TO LIE, BUT...

URK!

DOMI!

I MEAN, YEAH, YOU'RE ANNOYING, BUT...

...NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I -

SIGH... はぁ

---SOME-THING ELSE MASTER CAGLIOSTRO MADE.

I'M SURE HE WON'T TEACH ME ANYTHING UNTIL I'VE PROVEN MY SKILLS TO HIM.

THAT'S WHY I ***MUST*** CONSTRUCT SOMETHING TO IMPRESS HIM.

...
NANAERA -

ISN'T THERE... ANYTHING ELSE?

Y... YES?

...
...
...

IF ONLY I HAD ONE MORE INVENTION OF HIS TO COMPARE THIS ONE TO -

I COULD READ THE SOURCE CODE OF HIS PROGRAMS.

AND THE DRIVERS SHOULD BE OBVIOUS ONCE I OPEN IT ALL UP.

NANAERA.

...EVEN I AM NOT ALLOWED TO TOUCH HIS INVENTIONS.

HOWEVER ...

...THERE IS ONE - HE MENTIONED THAT HE "EMBEDDED A CHIP" INSIDE A WOMAN NAMED MERCURIO.

WHERE IS SHE? DO YOU KNOW?

I CAN FIND OUT...

...IF YOU WILL GIVE ME A LITTLE TIME...

I'LL FORCE CAGLIOSTRO TO ACKNOWLEDGE ME, AND THEN -

I'LL DRAIN EVERY SCRAP OF KNOWLEDGE HE HAS.

...BUT BEFORE THAT -

BA-THUMP
ドキ
BA-THUMP
ドキ

...YOU BIND A CONTRACT WITH ME...AND BECOME AN ENCHANTER...

IF YOU ARE GOING TO ANALYZE AND HANDLE ENCHANTED IMPLEMENTS.... THEN...PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BETTER IF...

DOOOOM!

WHAAAAT?!

NO WAY.

OH!

DO YOU PREFER SOMEONE MORE LIKE YOUR SISTER ...?

MY SISTER'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!!!

MEN ARE SENSITIVE THAT WAY!

DRAG

B-BUT I WILL TRY...TO PLEASURE YOU...

WHAT THE - ...!

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! YOU'RE NOT EVEN MY TYPE!

WHY DO YOU INSIST ON MR. CAGLIOSTRO?!

UM... UM - THEN...!

THEN WHY, MR. HOKUTO -

EH?!

IT LOOKS LIKE I'M DUMPING HER OR SOMETHING ... I HATE THIS...

I DON'T UNDER-STAND WHAT YOU MEAN.

IF TECHNICAL SKILL IS ALL YOU WANT, ARE NOT YOUR STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY ENOUGH?!

WHY CONCERN YOURSELF WITH MR. CAGLIOSTRO?!

YOU'VE SEEN THAT THING THE MASTER CONSTRUCTED, TOO - RIGHT?

SEEN THROUGH A CAMERA, A 3D IMAGE APPEARS ON THE SCREEN.

MOCHI

THAT SYSTEM IS CURRENTLY IN NORMAL USE NOW, BUT...

COLLEGE IS COLLEGE!

BUT I WANT TO STUDY OUTSIDE OF THAT, TOO.

...HE SAID HE MADE HIS A LONG TIME AGO.

PLUS, IT CAN OUTPUT UNSPECIFIED INFORMATION FROM THE BRAIN - WIRELESSLY, NO LESS!

SUCH A DEVICE ISN'T POSSIBLE, EVEN NOW...

HOW COULD I LEAVE THAT ALONE?!

I WANT TO MAKE ONE, TOO.

I WANT TO KNOW HOW HE DID IT.

THEN I'LL CATCH UP TO WHERE SIS IS!

AND THEN—

I MUST HURRY...SO I CAN BE WITH SIS ALL THE TIME...

PAF

ぴた

YOU REALLY LOVE YOUR SISTER, DON'T YOU? MR. HOKUTO...

WELL, SURE - ...

...!

IF YOU BECOME A PROPER ENCHANTER, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO CONSTRUCT ENCHANTED IMPLEMENTS INFUSED WITH DEMONIC POWER...

A...AS I SAID BEFORE -

OHHH!

I'LL SMACK YOU!!

HEY! STOP LOOKING INSIDE MY HEAD!!

I WANT TO KNOW HOW MASTER CAGLIOSTRO WORKS, AND THE SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION IN HIS DEVICE.

THAT'S NOT WHAT I WANT.

...AND HAVE ACCESS TO SPECIALIZED MATERIALS...

WHY DON'T YOU WANT ME TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE MASTER?

BUT NEVER MIND THAT, NANAERA...

...
...
...

NO...I DIDN'T MEAN...

SHE REALLY IS SO TEDIOUS... ARE ALL DEMONS LIKE THIS?

CHATTER

CHATTER

WELL... ABOUT THAT MERCURIO WOMAN...

FIND HER WHERE-ABOUTS.

おっはっはっは

HAHAHAHA

LOOK, HARUHIKO - *A CANDY APPLE!*

I'M A DEMON ♡

WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S ACTUALLY JUST AN APPLE WITH A CHOPSTICK SHOVED INTO IT - ISN'T THAT FUNNY?!

...

すー

DOOOM

...CUZ I DON'T WANNA BE REMINDED OF YUKA.

HA HA HA HA

おっはっはっはっ

DANG DANG DANG

OH YEAAAH - YOU'RE RIGHT, THAT IS A RIOT!

SOMEONE FROM THE CLASS NEXT DOOR GAVE IT TO ME -

HEY, HARUHIKO -

I DON'T GET IT.

ISN'T THAT NICE! NOW YOU GO PUT ON THAT WIG, OKAY?

NO PROB, NO PROB.

あはは HA HA HA HA

SORRY ABOUT THIS.

THE STAND IS BASICALLY DONE, ANYWAY.

YEAH, OKAY.

CHATTER

CHATTER

SORRY, BUT...

THE COFFEE MAKER'S ON THE FRITZ - COULD YOU TAKE A LOOK AT IT?

FIX...

FIXING - ...

... ...

WELL, THEN, LIL' COFFEE MACHINE -

I'LL GET TO FIXIN' YOU.

HEH...

FIXIN'...

HEHE- HE...

HARUHIKO! GET WITH IT!

IF YOU DON'T CHEER UP, HOW CAN YOU MOVE ON?!

THOK!

*DON'T PLAY WITH FOOD.

ナデナデ!

OHHH, MAN-

-SOB-

...

MERCURIO

.....

ううう...

LOOK...

SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE

ブルブルブル

IF YOU STAY DEPRESSED, I'LL TAKE YOUR SOUL!

OH -

OR DID I JUST MISS MY CHANCE TO...? DARN!

...
MERCURIO.

DOESN'T SHE LOOK LIKE SHE'S HAVING FUN?

I...

I HURT HER FEELINGS, DIDN'T I...?

HM?

...
...
...

M...MAYBE I SHOULD APOLOGIZE ...

DON'T ASK ME - I WOULDN'T KNOW.

BESIDES -

SHE SAID A LOT OF NASTY THINGS, TOO. WHY NOT JUST CONSIDER IT EVEN?

AFTER YOU SAID STRAIGHT TO HER FACE THAT SHE DIDN'T DESERVE TO EXIST...

...AT THIS STAGE?

APOLOGIZE? SHE'LL GO OFF ON YOU.

HOW BRAVE ...

NO. I'M GONNA GO TALK TO HER!

I'M NOT ASKING HER TO FORGIVE ME, BUT...

THAT'S TRUE...

UM...

HARUHIKO ... WAIT A -...!

CHATTER

CHATTER

YIKES ?!!

YOU ANNOY ME!!

KRAK!

HUH?!

A WORD WITH YOU, PLEASE.

DRAAAG -

I HAVEN'T EVEN APOLOGIZED YET!!

MR. HARUHIKO -

DID YOU ENJOY DOING SOME-THING YOU KNEW WAS WRONG?

!!

U

M-MERCURIO, WAIT!

L-LISTEN TO ME A SEC...!

DO YOU HEAR ME? MR. HARUHIKO.

CHUCKLE CHUCKLE

NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY, I'LL NEVER FORGIVE WHAT THAT DEMON DID TO ME.

GRIND GRIND GRIND GRIND GRIND

ANSWER ME!!

KNUDD

BFFT!

I WANTED TO SAVE THE DEMON MERCURIO BECAUSE...I DIDN'T WANT TO NEGATE HER EXISTENCE.

LIED

I KNOW... THAT'S UP TO YOU. I'VE GOT NO SAY IN THAT.

IT'S JUST - ...

ZING!

THAT'S YOUR OWN SELFISHNESS!

I KNOW! WHAT I'M SAYING IS - !

GRIND

AND IT MADE ME HAPPY...

...THAT SHE DEPENDED ON ME.

FOR BEING HURTFUL TO YOU BECAUSE OF MY OWN SELFISH WHIM ---

I'M SORRY ...!

GAH!

BAP!

DOOO

...

...

...!

YOUR APOLOGY DOESN'T GIVE ME BACK THE TEN YEARS I'VE LOST!

MR. HARUHIKO - IF IT'S SELF-SATISFACTION YOU WANT...I SUGGEST YOU TRY TO MOVE FORWARD, DAY BY DAY.

URRGH...

...HMPH.

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D EXPERIENCE SOMETHING SO KINKY AT THIS AGE...

TAP

TDDO

YOU HAD MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP THAT DEMON.

BUT YOU LET THEM SLIP BY. EVEN IF YOU LOOK AT THE UNIT, I DOUBT YOU'LL BE ABLE TO HANDLE IT WITH YOUR CURRENT LEVEL OF SKILL.

YOU WILL FIND MANY SITUATIONS IN WHICH MAKING AN EFFORT WHEN "SOMEONE ELSE IS DEPENDING ON ME" IS NOT ENOUGH.

...
...
...!

REALLY, IT'S NOT YOU I DESPISE -

...NOT THAT ANY OF THIS MATTERS TO ME.

GRIND...

IT'S THAT DEMON -

AND THE ENCHANTER WHO CONSTRUCTED THE UNIT...!

IT'S TRUE THAT THE UNIT MANAGED TO "PRESERVE" MY SOUL INTACT, BUT...

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, IT *IS* STRANGE -

WHY DID CAGLIOSTRO SAVE MER?

GRRRRRR...!

I SHOULD HAVE BEEN THE ONE ALLOWED ON THE "SURFACE" ...!

HOW INFURIAT-ING...!!

CAGLIOSTRO -

.....

THE GENIUS ENCHANTER WHO SAVED THE DEMON MERCURIO -

JUST WHAT KIND OF MAN IS HE...?

FACULTY

職員室

CLANK

OH...!

ホーッ
YAAY!
GYU!
?
I DID IT, GYU-CHAN!
SEE, I CAN DO IT IF I TRY!
IT OPENED ...!
THRILL ~...
OHH...!
GYU
DOOOOM ~...
ドヒ
...!
DU-DUN!
A90
OKAY, NEXT IS -...
UMM...
ドコ

VWM

O...

OH, NOOO~!

GYU—

!

FLAP

HH

OOO

OH, MY...

THIS AREA...

I SENSE THREE ENCHANTERS IN THIS AREA ALONE!

ENCHANTER 9 – END

NANIWA-JIN BATTLE DIARY

UGH... UHH... THEN GO AHEAD AND TAKE THESE ...

I'M GOING HOME ON THE FIRST TRAIN!!

I'VE GOT TO PASTE DOWN THE LETTERING - THERE'S NO MORE TIME!!

PLEASE HURRY AND HAND ME MORE PAGES!

GASP PANT

TAKO

ED.

HUH? BUT THERE ARE ALREADY NOTES ON THESE...

GOTCHA ...

OKAY, THEN PLEASE CHECK THE DIALOG I PASTED DOWN ALREADY.

ED.

TAKO

PLEASE APPLY SCREEN-TONE ON THOSE PLACES.

PANTIES!

ED.

TAKO

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!

HOW CAN I TAKE THIS BACK TO TOKYO WITHOUT THE PANTIES PROPERLY DRAWN IN?!

I THOUGHT YOU SAID THERE'S NO MORE TIME!

IT'S THE REASON I'VE COME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE!!

THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH!

ANY TALK OF AGE IS FORBIDDEN.

IN ITS FOURTH YEAR, HUH? NO WONDER I'VE AGED.

THIS SERIES HAS REACHED ITS THIRD-YEAR ANNI-VERSARY.

ED.

EVEN OLDER

TAKO

HEH!

I'VE GOT ONE, TOO. IT'S REALLY COMFY!!

TA-DAH!!

TO CELEBRATE THIS SPECIAL OCCASION, THE MAGAZINE HAD A PRIZE GIVEAWAY - A MERCURIO HUG-PILLOW.

THE ACTUAL DRAWING IS DIFFER-ENT, BUT...

TAKO

ARE YOU EVIL?!

ED.

A FULL-SIZED HUG-PILLOW-IN A SINGLE MAN'S ROOM?!

HA HA HA

I'LL PRESENT YOU WITH AN ORIGINAL-ILLUSTRA-TION HUG-PILLOW JUST FOR YOU, EDITOR.

SHADDUP! JUST SEND ME AN E-MAIL TELLING ME WHAT YOU WANT ON IT!

TAKO

I HEAR IT'S YOUR BIRTH-DAY

TYRANNICAL

SO THIS IS WHAT HE LIKES! (SEXUAL HARASS-MENT)

I SEEEE-

HEH HEH HEH...

TAKO

-----A DRAWING OF YUKA, PLEASE.
PLEASE DRAW YUKA WEARING A YUKATA THE .. SITUATION SHOULD BE AS IF SHE IS ON A TRIP TO THE HOT SPRINGS FOR THE FIRST T ME WITH A M AND THEY ARE ABOUT TO FOR THE POSE SHE SHOULD BE IN A GIRLY SITTING POSE AND A BIT O HER LEGS, SHINS, AND THIGHS SHOULD BE SHOWING HER EXPRESSION SHOULD BE A LITTLE BASHFUL, LOOKING DOWN, AND YET EYES GAZING STRAIGHT THIS WAY
HER HANDS SHOULD BE TRYING TO COVER HER BUST, BUT FAILING THE YUKATA SHOULD BE LOO AROUND HER BREASTS, REVEALING A BIT AS FOR THE YUKATA TSELF, A STANDARD HOT SPRINGS YUKATA SN'T VERY CUTE SO I WOULD L KE IT TO HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF LIGHT COLOR INSTEAD.
-----A DRAWING OF MERCURIO (DEMON VERSION) PLEASE
A REVERSED POSE OF THE TELEPHONE CARD ILLUSTRAT ON PLEASE SHE SHOULD BE SHOWN FROM THE THIGHS JP, AND HER BUTTOCKS SHOU BE TEASINGLY VISIBLE. THE BODY SHOULD BEGIN TO TWIST EROTICALLY AS IT GOES UP (SEE KASU FIGURE FOR REFERENCE) HER FACE SHOULD BE

MONITOR

I STILL HAVEN'T DRAWN IT YET — SORRY.

THERE ARE MANY I BUY THAT I JUST DON'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO PLAY, BUT I PLAY WHEN I CAN.

I LIKE SHORT, SINGLE-PLAYER ONES.

TAKO

YEAAAH!!

ARE YOU READY, GUYS?!

I LOVE GAMES.

36V

TADADADA

DA DAH

THERE'S A LIMITED EDITION - GET IT.

OHH, IT'S COMING OUT, ISN'T IT' S FOR THE DS.

ED.

YOU SHOULD GET THE NEW "PHOENIX WRIGHT" GAME, TOO, EDITOR.

I WAS ONLY ABLE TO PRE-ORDER THE STANDARD EDITION...

ASSIS-TANT

HUH ?

WHY DON'T YOU JUST BUY IT YOURSELF - ...

WHAT?

ED.

I WANT THE SPECIAL STYLUS THAT COMES WITH THE LIMITED EDITION. GIVE IT TO ME WHEN YOU GET IT.

QUIET!! YOU DON'T HAVE A CHOICE IN THIS!!

OUUUH!

TAKO

POOR GUY!

I HAD TO LINE UP SINCE MORNING ?

THANK YOU SOOO MUCH!!

YAHOO!

...HERE ...

I BOUGHT TWO...

ONE FOR MYSELF, AND...

I GAVE YOU A WAKE-UP CALL, DIDN'T I?

YAAY! THE "POINTER"

SOB SOB ...

ED.

IT'S A JOB.

HE'S A BIG HELP. HE ALSO RUNS ERRANDS.

BROTHER

ONCE A WEEK, MY YOUNGER BROTHER COMES TO MY WORKPLACE TO CLEAN FOR ME.

HE'S A STUDENT. YOUNG.

TAKO

HEY...

WE USUALLY DON'T TALK ABOUT MANGA AT ALL. I DON'T REALLY LIKE TO DISCUSS MY JOB WITH MY FAMILY, SO I NEVER BRING IT UP.

V E E E E

BROTHER

HM?

TAKO

CAN YOU LET THE DEMON MERCURIO STAY?

ALL OF A SUDDEN...

BROTHER

TAKO

NOOO! HE READS IT - HE'S READING IT!! AAAAHHH!!

KEEP HER ALIVE - PLEASE ?

C'MON ...

BROTHER

SO...HERE IS A "TOHOKU-JIN DIARY" WRITTEN BY SAID EDITOR.

TAKO

HUH? YOU DIDN'T BRING ANYTHING TODAY?

HERE I AM -

ED.

IT HAPPENED WHEN I WENT TO OSAKA AS USUAL TO PICK UP THE MANU-SCRIPT...

PALE -

OH NO...WHAT SHOULD I DO...? WHERE COULD I HAVE LEFT IT...? AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE? IN THE TAXI?

ED.

SOME-WHERE, I'D FORGOT-TEN MY BAG WITH THE IMPOR-TANT LETTER-ING AND EDITING TOOLS IN IT...

NORMALLY, THIS IS HOW I WOULD REACT, BUT...

FIRST THOUGHT...

THAT'S YOUR FIRST CONCERN ?!

HEY, KAWACHI-SAN... COULDN'T YOU USE THIS INCIDENT IN YOUR NANIWA-JIN BATTLE DIARY?

ED.

THIS IS ALL THANKS TO KAWACHI SENSEI'S DAILY GUIDANCE.

ED.

GRIP

USE WHAT RARE CHANCES COME YOUR WAY TO DISPLAY YOUR OWN NATURAL HUMOR! GO, TOHOKU NATIVE!

AFTERWARDS, I SAFELY RECOVERED MY BAG AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE...

IN OTHER WORDS, THE EDITOR IS THE FUNNY-MAN, I GUESS.

KAWACHI

NOT ONLY IN GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS, BUT OUR PERSONALITIES, TOO.

FROM THE KANSAI (WESTERN) DISTRICT

UHHH...

FROM THE TOHOKU (NORTH-EAST) DISTRICT

ED.

MY EDITOR AND I ARE COMPLETE OPPOSITES. VERY FAR APART.

HE NEVER GOES ALONG WITH IT. (OR IS THIS SOME NEW TYPE OF COME-BACK ...?)

HA HA

THAT LONG, DO YOU THINK?

ED.

IT'LL BE ANOTHER 50 YEARS BEFORE WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER.

EVEN IF I MAKE A JOKE,

TAKO

IT'S JUST THAT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO PLAY ALONG.

I'LL THINK, "OHHH, SHE'S BEING HUMOR-OUS NOW."

THE TOHOKU NATIVE SPEAKS.

TO BE HONEST, I DO GET IT -

SEE?! THAT WAS WHERE YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO JOKE BACK!!

THAT GOES WITH-OUT SAYING !!

BUT DON'T WORRY - I'M LISTEN-ING TO EVERY-THING YOU SAY.

IF YOU DON'T PLAY ALONG, I FEEL LIKE I HAVE TO EXPLAIN THE JOKE TO YOU!!

I GUESS THAT'S JUST HOW HE IS.

HOW SHOULD I KNOW THAT?!

ED.

HAHAHA

PLEASE, I BEG YOU — CALL ME ON IT!

SCREECH!

SCANS BY KICKTHEKITTY
EDITS BY EVANGELINE

I AM TAKEPON, THE SAME ARTIST WHO WAS KINDLY ALLOWED TO HAVE MY ILLUSTRATION PUBLISHED IN VOLUME 8.
KAWACHI-SAN, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR LETTING ME HAVE THIS CHANCE TO DRAW AN ILLUSTRATION FOR YOU ONCE AGAIN.
EUKANARIA AND HARUHIKO ARE STILL MY FAVORITES.
HOWEVER, GIVEN SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY, I APOLOGIZE FOR ONLY BEING ABLE TO DRAW SOMETHING LIKE THIS...(CRIES)
I WILL CONTINUE TO CHEER YOU ON!

TAKEPON

BONUS PAGE★

ONCE AGAIN, TAKEPON-SAN IS A GUEST! AND HAS ONCE AGAIN DRAWN A LOVELY EUKANARIA! (HARUHIKO, TOO! SO CUTE!) I AM HAPPY THAT EUKANARIA IS PORTRAYED AS SUCH A COOL BEAUTY. IN THE MANGA, MISS EUKANARIA SEEMS TO BE GETTING MORE AND MORE CHILDISH, SO THIS ILLUSTRATION HAS JOGGED MY MEMORY ON AN IMPORTANT POINT I SEEM TO HAVE FORGOTTEN LATELY...(LAUGHS). THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR TAKING TIME OUT OF YOUR BUSY SCHEDULE! PLEASE DO ANOTHER ONE AGAIN SOMETIME!! (LAUGHS)

TO THE RIGHT IS AN EARLY VERSION — ACTUALLY, IT'S THE FIRST DRAWING THAT I DID WHILE TRYING TO COME UP WITH A NEW CHAR-ACTER — OF MERCURIO. WOW. SO THIS FIRST CHARACTER VERSION WENT THROUGH THIS AND THAT...AND ALL THOSE CHANGES TO FINALLY BECOME THE FINAL CHARACTER(S) YOU KNOW TODAY! I GUESS YOU NEVER CAN TELL WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN A MANGA. HAHAHA...

BELOW IS CAGLIOSTRO. THESE SKETCHES ARE ALSO FROM WHEN I WAS THINKING UP CHARACTERS. HIS APPEARANCES ARE YET TO COME! WHAT WILL HAPPEN...?!

WELL, SEE YOU IN THE NEXT VOLUME!

NEW CHARACTER

AN ENGRAVER

NEW ENCHANTER — FORMERLY A DEMON

IN OUR WORKPLACE, HE'S REFERRED TO AS "CHEST-HAIR"...

ENCHANTER VOL;9

special thanx:

S.Miyazaki/N.Yabuta

M.Fujimoto/Y.Taniguch

R.Takao

and:

Takepon/T.Inada

K.Nakagawa